

Portable LP gas stove explosions

Details

Two separate (but similar) explosions involving portable gas stoves have occurred recently. Similar unconfirmed incidents have also been reported.

These single burner stoves use disposable butane gas canisters.



This image shows the trivet in the correct upright position for use.



This image shows the trivet upside down for storage but not for use.

Contributing factors

Investigations into these two incidents suggest that the stoves may not have been used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions:

- the burner trivet (which supports cookware like pots and pans) may not have been in the correct position while the stove was in use, and/or
- the cookware used may have been larger than the burner trivet.

These incorrect operating procedures can lead to excessive heat build-up within the appliance, and may cause the stove's butane gas canister to explode.

Recommendations

- Make sure portable LP gas stoves are used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Make sure the burner trivet is in the correct position before use.
- Make sure cookware is not larger than the burner trivet.

Please note that the gas appliances are taken to be approved (under section 70 of the *Gas Act 2000*) if they are approved by the Director of Gas Safety; or approved, registered or certified by an external authority (such as the Australian Gas Association or SAI Global).

If you would like further information contact Workplace Standards Tasmania on:
Telephone: **1300 366 322** (inside Tasmania) or (03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania)
Fax: (03) 6233 8338 Email: wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au Internet: www.wst.tas.gov.au

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Kent". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Bob Kent
Chief Inspector of Industry
Workplace Standards Tasmania
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